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ITEM NO=00292031
ENVELOPE
CDSN = LGX874 MCN = 92365/35604 TOR = 923652223
OTTUZYUW RUEKJCS9769 3652218-UUUU--RUEALGX.
ZNR UUUUU
HEADER
O 302218Z DEC 92
FM JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC
INFO RUEADWD/OCSA WASHINGTON DC
RUENAAA/CNO WASHINGTON DC
RUEAHQA/CSAF WASHINGTON DC
RUEADWD/PTC WASH DC
RUFGAID/USEUCOM AIDES VAIHINGEN GE
USDP CRISIS COORDINATION CENTER WASHDC
RUVKSRT/12 AF BERGSTROM AFB TX//IN//.
RUCEAAM/HQ NORAD INTEL CEN CHEYENNE MTN AFB CO//J2V//
RUEOACC/CDRPSYOPGP FT BRAGG NC//AORC-POG-SB//
RUANJTF/CJTF FOUR
RHCGSRB/CINCFOR FT MCPHERSON GA//FCJ2-IC/FCJ3-OD//
RUCBSAA/USCINCLANT NORFOLK VA//J2//
RUWANGC/CJTF FIVE//J20//
RUWSMXI/AMC INTEL CEN SCOTT AFB IL//IN//
RUCQVAB/USCINCSOC INTEL OPS CEN MACDILL AFB FL
RUWANTX/CJTF SIX
RHLBAAA/USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM
RULKQAN/MARCORINTCEN QUANTICO VA
RULSJGA/COGARD INTELCOORDCEN WASHINGTON DC
RUEALGX/SAFE
O 302219Z DEC 92
FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5511
INFO RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3868
RUEHNA/DEA HQS WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEADWW/NSC WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RHEHOND/ONDCP WASHDC IMMEDIATE
BT
CONTROLS
UNCLAS LA PAZ 020197

DEA FOR OC AND OF
USIA FOR AR; ONDCP FOR PORTER
NSC FOR BEERS

E.O. 12356: N/A
BODY
TAGS: SNAR, PGOV, PREL, BL
SUBJECT: GOB OFFICIAL OFFERS YEAR-END ASSESSMENT

1. BOLIVIA'S COUNTERNARCOTICS EFFORTS DURING THE PAST YEAR WERE EXTREMELY SUCCESSFUL AND SEVERE DAMAGE WAS

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
IS/FPC/CDR Date: 5/26/95
[X] RELEASE [ ] DECLASSIFY
[ ] EXCISE [ ] DECLASSIFY IN PART
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FOIA Exemptions
PA Exemptions
MR Cases Only:
EO Citations
TS authority to:
[ ] CLASSIFY as [ ] S or [ ] C OADR
[ ] DOWNGRADE TS to [ ] S or [ ] C OADR

DONE TO NARCOTRAFFICKER ORGANIZATIONS, ACCORDING TO SUBSECRETARY GONZALO TORRICO. IN A RECENT PRESS CONFERENCE, TORRICO CALLED 1992 A YEAR OF IMPORTANT ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE WAR AGAINST DRUG TRAFFICKING AND SUPPORTED HIS ASSERTION WITH A LIST OF IMPRESSIVE LAW ENFORCEMENT STATISTICS.

2. TORRICO, WHO IS THE SUBSECRETARY OF SOCIAL DEFENSE IN THE INTERIOR MINISTRY AND A KEY FIGURE IN BOLIVIA'S COUNTERNARCOTICS EFFORTS, STRESSED THE FOLLOWING LAW ENFORCEMENT ACHIEVEMENTS:

- 2,071 POLICE OPERATIONS WERE UNDERTAKEN IN 1992.

- 9.79 TONS OF COCAINE WERE SEIZED.

- 1,008 LABS WERE DESTROYED, ALONG WITH 1,827 PASTE PRODUCING POZO PITS.

- ENOUGH CHEMICAL PRECURSORS WERE SEIZED TO PRODUCE 45 TONS OF COCAINE HYDROCHLORIDE.

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- 1,138 SUSPECTS WERE ARRESTED, INCLUDING HIGH RANKING TRAFFICKERS SUCH AS CELIMO ANDRADE (A COLOMBIAN).

- OPERATION GHOST ZONE ESSENTIALLY CLOSED OFF THE CHAPARE TO NARCO AIRCRAFT.

- THE EXCELLENT COOPERATION BETWEEN BOLIVIA, ARGENTINA AND BRAZIL IN OPERATION TANGO.

- OPERATION GOLDEN BEAR (OSO DE ORO), SEIZED 9 TONS OF COCAINE SULPHATE.

3. TORRICO WENT ON TO SUMMARIZE THE COUNTERNARCOTICS SUCCESSES OF PRESIDENT PAZ ZAMORA'S ADMINISTRATION. NOTING THAT SINCE AUGUST, 1989, BOLIVIAN LAW ENFORCEMENT ELEMENTS HAVE:

- SEIZED 40.06 TONS OF COCAINE HYDROCHLORIDE.

- SEIZED ENOUGH CHEMICAL PRECURSORS TO PRODUCE 232 TONS OF COCAINE.

- ARRESTED 3,480 PEOPLE, OF WHOM 1,221 WERE INCARCERATED.

- DESTROYED 3,614 LABS AND 6,754 POZO PITS.

- DESTROYED 39 CLANDESTINE AIR STRIPS.

4. IN SPEAKING TO THE PRESS, TORRICO EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANT ROLE PLAYED BY ALL THE ELEMENTS OF BOLIVIA'S COUNTERNARCOTICS EFFORTS, UMOPAR (THE NATIONAL POLICE RURAL PATROLS), FELCN (THE SPECIAL FORCE FOR COUNTERNARCOTICS), THE RED DEVILS (BOLIVIAN AIR FORCE) AND THE BLUE DEVILS (BOLIVIAN NAVY). HE ALSO STRESSED THE CLOSE COOPERATION THAT EXISTS BETWEEN THE DEA AND BOLIVIAN LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES.

5.COMMENT: TORRICO'S UPBEAT, STATISTICS-LADEN INTERVIEW TOOK THE FORM OF NOT ONLY A YEAR END REVIEW OF THE GOB'S COUNTERNARCOTICS EFFORTS, BUT ALSO A POSITIVE ASSESSMENT OF THE PAZ ZAMORA ADMINISTRATION'S COUNTERNARCOTICS EFFORTS. WHILE STRESSING THE
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POSITIVE, TORRICO DIDN'T SHY AWAY FROM ADMITTING THAT PROBLEMS EXIST, NOTING THAT COOPERATION BETWEEN LAW ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS AND ALTERNATIVE DEVELOPMENT AND DRUG ABUSE EDUCATION NEEDED TO BE IMPROVED. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT A QUICK COMPARISON BETWEEN TORRICO'S STATISTICS AND THOSE OFFICIALLY REPORTED THROUGH STATE DEPARTMENT CHANNELS INDICATES ONLY SOME MINOR DISCREPANCIES. THE FIGURES HE ANNOUNCED ARE GENERALLY CONSISTENT WITH THOSE USED BY THE EMBASSY.

BOWERS
ADMIN
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